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Wholsome Advice
AND
INFORMATION

In *TRUE LOVE* to all called
CHRISTIANS;

To provokethem to the *Royal Law of Love*, as it
is in *Jesus*, and to the *BLESSED* and *EF-*
FECTUAL WORKS therein.

And in order thereunto, some brief. Instances are
inserted concerning the *Turks* Behaviours unto the
Christians and *Jews* that live among them, and
one unto another, and the *Fear & Awe* of
God that is upon many of them.

By one that did live severall years amongst them, S. S.

Rom. 2. 14, 15. *For when the Gentiles, which have not the
Law, do by Nature the things contained in the Law, these
having not the Law, are a Law unto themselves; which shew
the work of the Law written in their Hearts, their Consci-
ence also bearing witness, and their Thoughts the mean while
accusing or else excusing one another.*

Printed in the Year, 1676.

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Wholsome Advice

AND INFORMATION,

In *TRUE LOVE* to all called
CHRISTIANS;

To provokethem to the *Royal Law of Love*,
as it is in *Jesus*, and to the Blessed and Effe-
ctual *WORKS* therein.

THe Lord of Heaven and Earth, who by his
great Power & Wisdom did create all things
good, who in the beginning gave unto Man-
kind Dominion over the Earth, and God blessed
them, and said unto them, *Be fruitful, and multiply,*
and replenish the Earth (and subdue it) *and have Do-*
minion over the Fish of the Sea, and over the Fowl of the
Air, and every Living thing that moveth upon the Earth:
And the Works of the Lord were all good (and are
all good, savoury, sweet and pleasant) being order-
ed by his Universal Power and Wisdom, by which
they were created.

But Mankind being fallen from the Sense thereof,
they have formed and fashioned many Inventions in
their Minds, being captivated under the Enemy's

power of Darknes, wherein they are become corrupt and unfavoury, having lost their Dominion, instead of subduing the Earth, they have let the Earth over them, and being become Earthly-minded, the things that move upon the Earth have Dominion over them; and thus being captivated under the Enemy's dark power, set the Enemy's dark power above the Power and Wisdom of God, Christ, the same yesterday, to day and forever, by whom all things were created, who is Heir of all, by whose Power, Life and Immortality is brought to Light; Glory be to him forever.

But people being imbondaged and corrupted, they are become such Slaves thereunto, & in such a Ground of Infidelity, that they cannot so much as believe in God's Power and Wisdom, which is manifested to create again into its own primitive, favoury, holy Life, in Dominion over the Earth; but in the State of Infidelity, Mankind being plunged, with their narrow spirits they go about to measure the things of God, and in their fallen earthly wisdom to weigh things of Eternity (and being confounded in their Works) what variety of Coverings do People get to cover their Shame in all parts of the world, as well as in *Christendom* (so cal'd) where indeed they do greatly excel other Nations in curious Arts to make Coverings to hide their great Shame (a miserable Trade! but very costly in this Nation) And forasmuch as the Love of God hath been and is largely manifested, through which many have been and are redeemed from that great Folly & Madnes, in that vain Travail and Labour, in joyning with those Arts-men of the Times

Times, who spend their Dayes and consume abundance of Treasure in making False Coverings to cover their Shame; out of which Confusion many being redeemed, who are baptized into Christ, and have put on Christ's beautiful Garment, and are comely in his Sight, who is Lord of Heaven and Earth, before whom every Creature is manifest: and because such cannot run with them in the same Excess of Riot, and pay towards the Maintenance of those sortish Arts-men, what a Wonder they make of it! and cry to the Magistrates for Help, to punish the Innocent People, for keeping their Consciences void of Offence both towards God and Man: What Imprisoning, even many to Death, & Spoiling, Tearing and Rending of Goods, seeking thereby the Destruction and Ruin of many Thousands of industrious laborious Families.

A Practice not so common amongst the very *Turks*; among whom I having lived, I did observe something of their Behaviours to the *Christians* and *Jews* that live amongst them, and one unto another; and in many Common Civilities, which are called moral, in which they seemed to exceed many who are called *Christians* in *Christendom*; the *Christians* that live amongst them of several Opinions agreeing together in Outward Concerns, do enjoy the Liberty of their Consciences in their several Wayes of Worship; and the *Jews* have the same Freedom, the *Jews* observing the *Seventh Day*, and are quiet; and the *Christians* the *First Day*, and are not disturbed; and the *Turks* observe the *Sixth Day*; and I did not perceive any Penalties inflicted either on *Christians* or *Jews*.

Jews for worshipping of God as they suppose they should; but they do live quietly and peaceably one with another in these Concerns.

And concerning the *Turks Moderation*, in permitting the *Christians* so quietly to enjoy their several Perswasions in Religious Matters, I made some Inquiry, *what Reason they could give for the same?* and this Answer was returned me, thus saith the *Turk*, *In case we should go about to Compel or Force them to be of our Religion, Fear might overcome some of them, for fear of the Punishment some may yield; and in case we should perswade them by promises of Outward Preferment, for the Advantage sake some might yield; but* (saith the *Turk*) *when we have done all, we cannot alter or change their Belief, the which they retaining, though they may yield unto us, it would be but in Hypocrisie; and in case we should accept of them on those terms, they then would have an Opportunity to do us Hurt. And herein they shew more Moderation then the Apostate Christians in many Places of Christendom.*

And concerning the *Turks Deportment*, and Civil Respect one unto another, in meeting and greeting one another; they seem to exceed the *Christians* in the Morality; it being a Cause of Laughter unto them to see the *Christians* beggerly airy Behaviours one unto another, in Scraping with the Leg, and Daughing the Hat, and Foolish Gestures, too too much used amongst many who are called *Christians*, who want the more solid, and more comely, and truly courteous Behaviour, which the Truth guides unto.

But lest any should mistake, who do not know the Difference which is amongst them called *Turks*,
whercin

wherein I speak of the Behaviour of the *Turks*, as before, I do not speak of those Nests and Dens of Thieves and Robbers, who are made up of *Christian-Runnagadaws*, *Moors* and *Turks*; neither do I speak of the Aspiring High-minded Ones amongst them; but I speak of a Plain People; call'd *Turk-men*, whom I having trusted much, and having found them faithful, I perceived they had an Awe and Fear of God upon them, they often expressing these words [*The Lord is Just, and therefore we must do Justly*] and by Occasion having proved a *Turk*, I shall in brief give an Instance of his Faithfulness, wherein he declared the Fear and Awe of God that was upon him; Being ordered by a Merchant that then lived in *Alepo*, to send him up 1500 Dollers privately, from *Scanderown*, where I lived, according to Order, the Money being delivered, and laid upon a Horse in a Sackel, as their manner is, the Horse by a Chance ran away with the Money upon him, it being in a dark Night he could not find him, and in the Morning betimes the Horse with the Money was feeding at a *Turk-man's* Crib, the *Turk* taking hold of him, and feeling the Money, and seeing the *Christians* Mark, there being none to accuse him but the Witness in him, he might clearly have kept the Money, and turned the Horse going; but the faithful and true Witness was so prevalent in him, that he took the Money and carried it unto an *Agaw*, which in that place is somewhat like unto a *Lord of a Manner*, and after diligent search, what he had done was shewed unto me, and the Money recovered: But mind the Awe and Fear of God that was upon the *Turk*, after
 Inquiry

Inquiry concerning his Doings this was his Answer, said the Turk, *The Lord hath blessed me with Cattle of several sorts, accounting his Outward Riches; in case (said he) I should have put that Money to that which the Lord hath blessed me withal, that being none of mine, the Lord would have brought a Curse upon all that I have.* Hear this O Christians, and awake to Righteousness,

Col. 1. and don't persist in your Gain-saying the
23. preaching the Gospel to every Creature, lest
you be cut off from the Goodness of God

through your Unbelief and Hard-heartedness; and those whom you so despise be grafted in (all things are possible to the Power of the Lord) for of a Truth, as said Peter in another Case, *the Lord is no Respector of Persons, but in every Nation he that feareth him and worketh Righteousness is accepted with him.* So mind,

its not a bare Talk of Righteousness that will serve; and what have you more who say, *Visions are ceased, and Revelations are ceased, and the Inspiration of God's Spirit is not to be known now adays?* Oh blind Apostates! what Gospel have you to preach? No; the Gospel is hid to you, in whom the God of this world

hath blinded the minds of them that

2 Cor. 4. believe not, lest the Light of the Glori-
3, 4. ous Gospel of Christ, who is the Image of
God should shine unto them: The Con-

fession out of your own Mouthes will rise up against you in the Day of Account, which hastens: The Midnight of Darkness is much over you, and the Day of the Visitation of God's Love to many of you is far spent: Do you think that your having the holy mens Testimonies of the Righteousness of God will add

to your Comfort in the Day of Account, if you be found out of the Righteousness there testified of? No; assuredly they will be a Witness against you. The learned *Scribes* and the *Pharisees* they had the Law and the Prophets, which witnessed to the Righteousness of God (but they resisting the Spirit of God) how blind and ignorant were they of the Law and Prophets! so that Goodness of God they being Strangers unto, through their Hard-heartedness, in resisting the Key of Knowledge, they were so far from the Comfort thereof, that they took Occasion by them to resist the Righteousness of God; so those blessed Testimonies which witnessed to the Righteousness of God, were a Witness against them for refusing the same: And forasmuch as the *Christian* Nations have more of the Holy Mens Testimonies concerning the Righteousness of God in the blessed Operation of his holy Spirit, and do grieve it, and do despight unto it, and are found in the Day of Account out of the Life of the Righteousness thereof, the more and stronger will the Scriptures of Truth be a Witness against them: So then the Scriptures are profitable and comfortable, through the blessed Spirit that opens them, and gives Power to live the Life of the holy Men recorded therein: But if the Righteousness of God's holy Spirit, which is witnessed unto throughout the Scriptures of Truth, be rejected, then will the Scriptures be unprofitable & uncomfortable in the Day of Account, when every one shall receive a Reward according to their Deeds done in the Body.

Oh! that people would consider, and not go on striving against the Works of the Lord, who is exalt-

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ing the peaceable Kingdom of the Son of his Love;
 which is in Righteousness, Peace and Joy
 Rom. 14. in his holy Spirit (Oh! its for want of
 17. Knowledge that People perish) and ra-
 ther then they will deny themselves, that
 they may have Knowledge of the Righteousness
 which is of God, they will persist and perish in their

own unrighteous Works; *for the wrath of*
 Jam. 4. *Man worketh not the Righteousness of God; for*
 20. *the Eyes of the Lord are over the Righteous, and*
 1 Pet. *his Ears are open unto their Prayers, but the*
 3: 12. *Face of the Lord is against them that do Evil.*

Oh that people had a true Knowledge of the
 Scriptures! but *they do err, not knowing the Scriptures,*
nor the Power of God: The Goodness and Mercies of
 God, both in the holy Mens Testimonies, as recor-
 ded in the Scriptures of Truth, and otherwayes ma-
 nifested; should lead unto true Repentance of every
 Evil Way and Work, whereby God's Righteous Spi-
 rit is grieved and quenched.

Assuredly the more God's Holy & Righteous Spi-
 rit doth strive many Wayes with a People or Nation,
 and they go on, not regarding the Operation of the
 Hand of the Lord therein, but do continue to grieve
 and quench the blessed Motions thereof, it will be
 more tolerable in the Day of Judgment unto that
 People or Nation which profess less but do more:
 So its not a bare Profession and Confession, what peo-
 ple should do that is acceptable; but its in doing the
 Will of God; through the Movings of his holy Spi-
 rit, in every Nation they that fear God and work
 Righteousness are accepted; and for that End, that
 people

people might fear God and work Righteousness, his universal Love in his universal Spirit & Power doth enlighten all Mankind, whereby they may see the Evil and the Good; and to them that receive him in his Tenders of Love, he gives them Power to eschew the Evil and to love the Good, of what Nation, Language or Country soever they be of. In the time I lived among the *Turks* it appeared to me, that they had more Charity and true Love one unto another, then may be found amongst many who are called *Christians*, who live in Error, out of God's Way: Surely such *Christians* are driven farther from true Love one to another, and Mercy, and Patience, and Self-denial, then the very *Turks*: They may be ashamed when they look back into those malicious works manifested upon an Innocent People in this Nation; I suppose they are not to be parallel'd amongst the very *Turks*: And for *Christendom*, so-called, in general, who are apostatized from the Truth, how many Religions & high Professions therein are made of God and Christ, but how little of the blessed Example and Humiliation of Christ is followed? Let the Wise in Heart take but a view of the greatest part of *Christendom*, so called, this day, and see what works of Envy, Malice & Hatred (Evil Fruit) is shewn forth, where they seek the Ruin and Destruction one of another; such wild Fruit doth not proceed from Christ the Vine; no, no; such Fruit proceeds from a corrupt Root, which the Ax of the Lord must be laid to, and it must be cut down, the Word of the Lord must come over it, which must be felt a Hammer to beat down Corruption, and a Fire to consume it;

this is the Cross that *Christians* must take up, if ever they arrive at that blessed Haven of Rest which the Lord of Heaven & Earth has appointed for them that love him; thus *Christians* bowing under the Cross, the Power of God, & crucifying their corrupt Wills, and Affections, and Lusts, with that exalted, proud, arrogant spirit, that carries people above the Fear of God & the blessed Example & Humiliation of Christ; *Christians* (so called) coming under this Cross, then will you be a good Example to all *Turks* and *Infidels* in the World; and your good Conversations and true Love one unto another will convince the *Turk* that the Lord is with you of a truth, there being no other Way to true Happines and Peace with the Living God, but by Christ, *the way, the Truth, the Life*, which people being converted to and living in, therein shewing forth the great Love of God to the World in his Son; this will preach forth the Righteousness of God unto them who are Strangers thereunto; and the people thus gathered to the Lord, the Lord will be with them, and plead their Cause, whilst you observe that great and chief Commandment, in *loving God above all, and your Neighbours as your selves*; in doing this you will please God, & reach to the Witness in them that do not know God: But if you continue meer Talkers and high Professors of what you should do, and leave that undone which should be done, therein you will be a bad Example, and an ill Saviour to other Nations, and a Stink, which the Lord of Heaven and Earth will never be pleased with; though you may cry Lord, Lord, in your deep Distress, he will not hear, if you regard Iniquity (*the Prayers of the Wicked are Abomination to the Lord*)

Lord) I speak the Truth in the Love of God unto you,
 in dealing plainly, according to his blessed Will:
 You that say, *you are Christians*, examine your selves;
 will the Name *Christian* avail you, if you be out of
 the *Christian*-Life and Nature? What will it avail you
 to retain a Name of being Christ's Followers, and
 if you be found in the Way of the *Scribes* and *Pha-*
risees, by whom he was crucified? What will it a-
 vail you to talk of the Truth in the inward parts, that
 which is lovely in the sight of the Lord, if you be
 found in a spirit of Deceit and Falshood in the Friend-
 ship of the World, resisting the Just, and he doth
 you no harm? What will it avail you to cry *Lord*,
Lord, and not wait to know his Will and do it? What
 is it the near for you to talk of God's great Love to
 the World in the Son of his Love, who invited all to
 him who was and is meek and lowly, where the Rest
 and Peace is, in the Joy of the Lord to immortal
 Souls, if you be found in froward, peevish, exalted,
 imaginary, proud, ambitious spirits? What will
 it avail you to read and talk of the Holy Mens Lives
 and Blessed Practices, if you be found in the Life and
 Practice of *Cain*, *Nabal* and *Haman*? *The Followers of*
Christ Jesus, the Heavenly Man, they were and are to de-
ny themselves, & take up a daily Cross to Cain's Nature,
to Nabal's Nature, to Haman's Nature: The blessed
 and effectual Cross that slayes the Enmity, and makes
 a Reconciliation by the blessed Cross (the Power of
 the Lord and Saviour) *Christians* being plunged dip-
 ped, baptized, and brought under Christ, the Power
 and Wisdom of God: And in the blessed Gospel-
 Order established, and therein shining forth to the
 Praise

Praise and Honour of God ; this will preach and reach to the *Turks* and *Infidels* in the World, and overcome them, and make them confess, *That Christ Jesus is a blessed Leader, and all that follow him are blessed and happy forever ; and that there is no other way to true Peace and Happiness, but by following Christ's blessed Example and great Humiliation, by all that ever come to attain to his Resurrection, he must lead them in the way.*

So, away with all your wooden, brazen, iron, golden Crosses, with all your Trumpery thereunto belonging, with all Images, and Religions which are turned into Trades and Merchandize, whereby spiritual Wick- edness and the Mystery of Iniquity is up- holden ; away with it all, it stinks. Now the great Mystery, *Christ in us the Hope of Glory*, is opened, a blessed Fountain to wash in, which makes clean the In- side, and fits and prepares for his Glorious and E- verlasting Kingdom ; the Desire of all Nations is come and coming ; blessed are all they that wait for him and receive him, where there is nei- *Col. 3. 11.* ther *Greek nor Jew, Barbarian, Schythian, Bond nor Free, but Christ is all and in all.*

And this Love of God to the World, in his Son Christ Jesus, the Lord of Heaven and Earth, by his universal Power and Wisdom hath raised Thousands of Living Witnesses, who cannot deny him before men, knowing assuredly that the Cause is the Lord's, & he will plead it with all flesh ; and to all faithful and true witnesses, that continue to the end, they shall have a Crown of immortal Life, the which Life and Immorta- lity is brought to Light through the Gospel. (Praises be to his

his holy Name forever) So its for *True Christianity* that many who are call'd *Quakers* have so deeply suffered to this day; and in this true Self-denial and Daily Cross, following our blessed Leader and Commander, Christ Jesus, we have sought the Good of all Mankind, testifying against *Infidelity* and *Corruption* where-ever it appears.

Take but a View of this Nation, and see what abundance of poor distressed Families are begging up and down, and many are ready to perish for want of Conveniences; and do but view how others do swell in Pride & Luxury, and cover themselves over with the Name of *Christian*; whatever Esteem this may have in the sight of fallen Man, I am sure it hath none with God, nor those who are raised unto some degree of knowledge of his divine Power & Wisdom, by which all things were created good in the Beginning, and by which alone that which is out of order must be put into order again.

The Lord God prosper his blessed work of Reformation, which he hath begun in the Earth, saith my Soul, and the Souls of all who are truly sensible of his Righteousness therein.

8th of the 12th }
Moneth, 1675. }

Stephen Smith.

T H E E N D.